

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY

IN-HOME AND RELATIVE PROVIDER MONITORING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The District of Columbia Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), Division of Early Childhood Education (ECE) is responsible for coordinating early childhood education services for District of Columbia children and their families. The OSSE/ECE provides leadership and coordination to ensure all District of Columbia children from birth to kindergarten entrance have access to high-quality early childhood development programs. It implements high standards for programs and professionals, creates supports to meet standards, develops accountability measures, engages community stakeholders, and secures financial supports.

Much of the child care services in the District of Columbia are provided in homes by family members and relatives. For many low-income District of Columbia residents, in-home child care is more affordable and, in some cases, in-home and relative child care is preferred. However, in-home child care providers may lack the skills, training, and knowledge required to nurture children's physical, social, emotional and intellectual growth. Furthermore, many of the license-exempt in-home or relative child care providers work in isolation and are not aware of the resources and the network available to them. Consequently, these children may not be receiving the quality of care that is needed.

The OSSE/ECE Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP) subsidizes the cost of child care by making payments directly to in-home and relative care providers. Low-income families who choose in-home and relative child care providers can apply for financial support from the CCSP.

OSSE/ECE is seeking one (1) grantee to improve the services delivered by in-home and relative child care providers who participate in the OSSE/ECE Child Care Subsidy Program (CCSP). The grantee will be expected to improve the services given by these providers so they can improve the development and school-readiness of the children in their care through provider training, monitoring, networking, and newsletters.

Funds up to \$150,000.00 are available to support the grant awarded under this RFA. The Request for Applications (RFA) will be available on April 14, 2010. Applications may be obtained from the Office of Partnerships and Grant Services website (www.opgs.dc.gov) at the District Grants Clearinghouse link. Applications may also be obtained from Ms. Sandra McIver, Grants Management Specialist, 717 14th Street, NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20005 at (202) 727-5045 or sandra.mciver@dc.gov.

A Pre-Application Conference will be held on **Thursday, May 6, 2010, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon** at 717 14th Street, NW, 8th Floor Conference Room, Washington, DC 20005. For preparation purpose, interested parties planning to attend the Pre-Application Conference are requested to RSVP to Ms. Sandra McIver at (202) 727-5045 or sandra.mciver@dc.gov.

THE DEADLINE FOR APPLICATION SUBMISSION IS MAY 27, 2010